

Appl. No. 09/976,206

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication on page 2 of the Office Action that claims 45 to 49, 51 to 55, and 57 are allowed. Only these claims have been maintained in the application, and accordingly it is believed that the application is allowable.

The only current amendment reflected in the preceding listing of claims is an amendment to claim 53, which corrects an apparent typographical error.

Claims 58 and 59 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent 6,519,225 (Angle et al). As indicated in the preceding listing of claims, these claims have been cancelled. The cancellation of these claims should not be interpreted as any form of admission by the Applicant that the claims are unpatentable. The Applicant has cancelled these claims solely to advance the examination of the application.

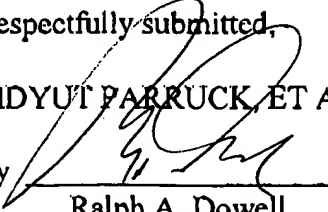
Since only allowed claims remain in the application, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action to this effect is earnestly solicited.

The Applicant further respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any issues that may impede allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: *July 17, 2006*

DMW/wfs